DAYS,

And for Long After the Revolution-Their Baronial Hall and Happy-Ge-Lucky Modes of Life.

"Sydney's" letter to the Mail: If there are any folk in this country who cling to the doctrine that blood will cling to the doctrine that blood will tell they may point proudly to Thomas Nelson Page, author of Meh Lady and Marse Chan. Thomas Nelson Page himself is a gentlemanly looking young man about 30, and has a modest law office in Richmond. In July he married Miss Bruce, of Virginia, the niece of Mr. Seddon, the Confederate Signature of War. They are the niece of Mr. Seddon, the Confederate Scoretary of War. They are now in Europe, this being Mr. Page's first visit. He belongs to the branch of the family known as the "whits Pages," to distinguish them from the "black Pages," one branch being as fair as the other is dark. The Pages rank among the greatest families in Visiting When the Advanced the When the Astors and the Va derbilts were day laborers, the Stuyvesants kept a "general store," and Nicholas Fish was the proprietor of a Datch tavern, Sir John Page, baronet, reigned over a principality in the rich lowlands of Virginia. Sir. John and h's successors, es well as his forefathers, were people of extravagant tastes. They owned in Rosswell, in Glonceste county, by far the grandest colonial manrion in this country, by which the Philipse house and the Oraigie mansion sink into insignificance, and not even the great piles of Brandon and Westover, on the James river, could really rival. As it was originally the center was a vast cube, ninety feet square, with semi circular wings ex-tending from the sides, forming an oval court yard. Every brick in it was brought from England, as the case frequently was in Virginia, whe.e. the tobacco ships brought English bricks as ball st, and found a ready sale for them among the English set-tlers in Virginia. In the same county as Rosewell, and near it, is a beautiful old parish church—Abingdon—o which all the bricks came from Eng-

ROSEWELL was the ambitions dream of a certain Page who married an heiress, Mary His son, Mann Pare, furnished it, and then set out to enjoy his money after the old Virginia manner. He had wast quantities of silver plate, all marked with the Page crest-tores starlings. Much of this yet remains in existence, including a silver cas'or with silver bottles and a pair of silver candlesticks, the last in the possession of Dr. John Page, professor of agri-culture at the University of Virginia. Then they had superb family diamonds, and these also exist. But the last Page who owned Rosewell had twenty-one children, of whom fifteen lived to be men and women, so that there was long division in the family. The diamond necklace had three large pendants. Two of these, set as a pair of earrings, are now in possession of a member of the family, and have been valued at \$1600. Likewise, the Pages had a great fancy for family portraits and extravagant tombstones. Upon the last they have exhausted eulogy in megnifying the defunct Pages, and in the family burying ground at Rosewell one finds one's self in a great assemblage of worthies, renowned for their moral and physical perfection, if their epitaphs don't lie. Rosewell in the old days was crammed with family portraits, and when the Pages were forced to quit the place for a smaller. forced to quit the place for a smaller and plainer establishment, many of the portraits were too large to be hung in their new home, and were left upon the walls of the upper hall for more than fifty years. Among these was a besutiful full-length of one of the ladies of Rosewell, who was the daughter of the great Bishop Burnett. She was celebrated for her fine hand, and in her portrait she stands in a blue satin court dress with one hand held out, the lace falling back and showing the exquisite arm to the elbow. Then there was Count Brown who won his title under Prince Eu-gene, and Sir John Page in his Ox-ford cap and gown, tesides innumera-ble hard favored old Pages in full bot-tomed wigs, scowling fiercely out of their hiraute ambush. The upper hall had been originally a picture gallery. The lower hall was an immense p ace, with a steircase so broad and shallow that tradition has it that a party of young blocds assembled there once drove a house and gig up the stairs. The upper hall is large and imp sing, with corridors leading off in diff rent directions. The old Pages evid-ntly believed in generous ac ommodation, for in the center building-now the only one left-were the two halls, six large rooms sides offices and four corriders. The third story was never finished off, as the first serious blow to the Page fortune came from the building and fur-nishing of Rosewell. They did not omit, however, to farnish the wine cellars, of which there is a perfect labyrinth underneath. Tradition has it that there was originally a fish pond on the roof-a practice common encush in building English houses of that dur. The root was of lead, and Gov. John Page, who was the first to drop the title, stripped it off to mould into bullets for the Continental army. This same magnificent old gentleman during the siege of Yorktown, when provisio a ran low in the American army, signed requisitions in blank to feed the oldiers. It is not surprising to know that this fine old person died a lankrupt, and his children had to

TROMAS JEFFER-ON AS A PIDDLER. Thomas Jefferson was a crony of Gov. Page, and spent mo t of his time at Rosewell. His favorite seat in the cupols is still shown, and it is said be drew up there the first rough draft of the Declaration of Independence. Jefferso hat another reason besides the charms of R sewell and his worthy friend J ha Pase, E.g., to keep him in Glau ester. He was dreadfully in love with Rebecca Barwell, a beauty and an heir ss, whose home w s not far from Rosewell. It is said that Jefferron and a dim idea of putting an end +himself when the fair but false R secca finally gave him his conge. The fact is when Thomas wood R becca he was a shambling, awkward student at William and Mary Volege, renowned for nothing "cessant and nuskillful craping of the violin, and was no match for Benerica Burwell. Perhans she lived to eavy the Widow Skelton, who rg ed to preside over Shadwell as Mr. Jefferson. The Nelsons, with whom the Pages inter-

NELSON PAGE'S ANCESTORS

Rosewell Pages—then become the Shelly Pages—married five of the York Pages, and from them is Thomas Nelson Page descended. The Nelson house at Yorktown is a solid brick pile, not nearly so imposing as Bose-well—merely a country gentleman's house, according to the modest and

primitive idea of the time.

But the Nelsons show with pride a ragged hole in the substantial masonry, made by a connon fired by no other hand than that of Gen. Nelson himself, the revolutionary hero. Dur-ing the siege of York the Nelson house afforded great protection to the British sharps booters, and the

AMERICAN GUNNERS hesitated before demolishing it. Sec ing this, Gen. Nelson stepped up, and sighting the gun himself, deliberately touched it off, and the shot crashed into his house. "There, my men," cried he, "I will give a gold guinea for every shot that strikes that house." This old gentleman, like Gov. Pege, died bankrup, but so long as they lived magnificently they cared not how they died. The Chevalier de Chastelleux, a friend of Lafayette's who visited Virginia soon after the revolution, paid a visit to Gen. Nelson at the Nelson house. He wrote enthustastically of the refinement and hospitality of the family and their free-dom from drinking and gambling and popular vices of the day.

Nobody could say that the Pages borrowed trouble. Toward the last,

when debtors were making ready to sweep down on them, the Mrs. Page, who had twenty-one children and a great taste for gayety beside, used to boast that she never stayed awake a night in her life with her numerous brood, and putting her diamonds in her pocket would step into her coach and drive off to balls and barbeques as happy as a queen. She sang beauti fully, and to the very last retained her beauty, her sprigntliness and her charming voice. The day came at last—more than fifty years ego—when the Pages had to leave Rosewell, after having maintained baronial state there for nearly a hundred and fifty years. The old people who remember that ead procession toward Shelly, say it was piteous to see the old negroes, the superannuated horses, the worn out farming implements—all the memoria's of a great establishment gone to decay. But after being relieved of the incubus of Rosewell, the Pages prospered. Shelly, which was just across the great was criminally called Wareness creek was, originally called Werewo-comico, and was the favorite residence of KirgPow Ha'tan, but the name was inconvenient, and it was rechr stened Shelly, from the piles of oyster shells on its shore. This was reported to be due to a custom of the Pages, which was to have oyster soup for dinner every day in the year. As it was like feeding a garrison, in the course of time a very respectable rampart was made of the cast off shells of the noble York River oysters. Rosewell once more belongs to a Page. He may be wiser, more prudent, more thrifty than tho e who went before, but he never can be more freehanded, generous and loyal than the dead and gone Pages, who lived like lords, and proudly signed themselves "Page of Rosewell."

STRIKE AT NEW YORK Of Brown Stone Cutters, and Other Building Trades Likely to Follow.

NEW YORK, September 25. — The brown stone cutters in all the yards in this city are on a strike, having been ordered out a few days ego because
Henry Hanlein, of Ninety-Second
street and First avenue, locked out his
rubbers and mill men. There had
been a dispute between him and his
men about a "scab" engaged. The
Brown Stone Rubbers Protective Association took up the cause of the
They considered that, as the bosses strong organiz tion and acted unitedly, they would order a general strike to bring Hanlein to terms. The Employ-ees Association then appealed to the derrick men and hod holsters to assist them, and resolutions were adopted in both unions to do so. The conse-quence is that 200 derrick men have gone on a strike, and 100 more will be ordered out today. Before the trouble is se tled a general strike of the building trades may be ordered. Should that occur th usands of men would be idle, including hod hoisters, engineers, bricklayers, framers, derrickmen, stope setters, gas and steam fitters, plumbers and laborers. The stone cutters have not struck, but they are closing up their work, and the 1500 men in the union will probably have to quit. Whether the Dealers Association will resolve to close up for the season remains to be seen.

REVERSAL.

In that dark time when sorrow dwelt with me; When one sweet face beneath the coffin lid Was all my heavy, earth-turned eyes could

And all the world beneath that face was I heard thy words-and knew thy heart did Words full with sympathy, and strong with

And brave with hope, and tender in mine But cared not answer, with my lips so weak. weak.
And now what falleth? I stand lifted high
Within the blessed light and thou dost lie
Beneath the sh-dow of thy sacred grief.
Yet1, who ought in turn to brins relief
To these in words, stand dumb, with lips

But friend, O friend! thou knowest well my heart.

The Cruiser Atlanta.

Washington, September 25.—Commodore Harmony, acting Secretary of the Navy, has received a letter from the c mmender of the new cruiser Atlanta, respecting the performances of the vessel in Long Island Sound. She has not yet undertaken her required six hours consecutive test of speed, but has a tained in a sing e hour the co tract rate of fourteen knows, with collective horse power of 2500. Her machinery works well.

Keeping Their Eye on Hotel Keep-ers. St. Louis, Mo. September 25.—After the adjurnment of the Knights Templar Grand Encampment one of the members of the Grand Com-mandery said that the selection of Washington as the place for the next triennial conclave was coupled with a provise giving the Grand Master authority to name another place three months prior to the time appointed for holding the conclave, in case there were any indications of imposition on the part of hotel keepers or others.

Schooner Wrecked With Loss of Life. WINNIPEG, September 25 .- Aschooner is r. p rtsd wrecked 174 miles west of Port Arthur. Two bodies and a portion of the cargo have drifted ashore.

I left Ohinemutu in company with Mr. Goldsmith, District Surveyor, and after three hours' riding through a mountainous fern clay country, reached the survey camp at Parehern Bush, a few miles from the most southern crater and close to the edge of the mudline. On the road from Ohinemutu very few indications of the eruption can be observed. On the Mcerand can be observed. On the Meer-angi ranges, at the base of which the track lies, the deposit ejected on the 10th of June still remains, giving a bluish tint to the lofty hills. As Pare-heru is approached, however, the signs of volcanic action become more signs of volcanic action become r evident. The ground is covered to the depth of several inches with scoris, seh and mud, and here and there earthquake shocks are met with. These are caused by a subsidence of the ground, and in almost every case follow the lines of former depressions. which are a very marked feature of the country. It is also noteworthy that they invariably run northeast and southwest—the d rection followed by the great fisure or line of volcanic force. The cracks vary in width from a few inches to two or three feet, and in some places are from three to four i-et deep. short rest at the camp I started for the southern crawr, passing on my way a part of the bush which has the appearance of having been subjected to the full force of a scorebing blast. About half an hour's wa king birgs you to the mud line roper. Behind you, high brown fern clothes the ridges and valleys, while in front as far as the eye can reach, stretches a mighty, undulating ocean of dull gray mud, in the center of which rises an enormous volume of pure white at am, while in the background Tarawers, gashed and broken, towers 3800 feet into the sky. A SCENE OF FRARFUL DESOLATION,

tion In most places the mud is con-solidated, and is as hard as cement, but here and there one comes across nasty patches in which you sink at every step over the knee Walking under such circumstances is excessively difficult and fatigueing The mud clings like glue to the foot and leg, and it requires considerable physical strength to get through these places. I was fally an hour crossing a patch of soft mud, which, under ordinary cir-cumstances, I could have walked over in five or ten minutes. With the exception of these places, which can not be avoided, walking, though laborious, presents no very great difficulty. The surface is furrowed in all direct ons, presenting a similar appearance to plowed land, while deep cross courses are frequently met with. The southern crater is formed in a high hill, the sides of which are covered with fragments of rocks, principally trachyte. From the lip to the hot lake at the bottom of the crater is between 500 and t00 feet. Very little steam rises from this crater, but the water in it was boiling furiously, and lands ips were c retantly occurring. A little to the nor hwest of this crater one point they have been broken through, and three weeks ago the lake poured out enormous volumes of boiling water at this point, which formed a river of considerable dimensi ins, and its course can be distinctly traced, the banks being from twenty to thirty feet high in some places. Since then, however, the lake hrs fallen, and is now several feet below its former level. Divided from the

lake by a narrow strip of land is

THE HOLE IN-THE WALL CRATER,

of which no one who has not gazed

upon it can form the faintest concep-

an enormous gap in the side of the hill. It is an ugly and fearcome place, full of steam and water of inky blaceners. This crater and the lake have a playful habit of equirting water and throwing stones into each other. Fortuna'ely, however, the day I stood between them they refrained from in-dulging in this sport. All round the hillsides, right down to the margin of the lake where I was, the ground was covered with indentations, marking where heavy stones had falen and buried themse yes in the mud, splash ing in all directions, and giving the side of the hill the appearance of hav-ing been bombarded. These depressions are circular in form, and vary from four to thirty feet in circumfer-ence. The Rothomahana craters, which lie beyond, were sending up a beautiful cloud of steam, and thunder-ing away with great activity. The wind was bitterly cold, and swept over the blesk, mud-covered hills with tramendous force, carrying with it clouds of public dust. Round the cone of the southern crater the surface is brilliantly beloweled with beautiful white crystals, which sparkle like diamonds in the sunshine. The return to camp was a farguing journey, and cross-ing the soft mu, which had grown softer and sticker than ever, was a tollsome piece of work. During the night several sho kaof earth quake were experienced, and the distant rumbling of the craters sounded clear and uncanny in the stillness of the midnight. In the Weiotacu Valley which lies between there two gant peaks, there is a new wooderland, rich in the most marvelous creations of a mysterious nature, and hitherto unexplored by tou ists. There are hundreds of fumaroles, hot springs, steam holes lakes of the most lovel tints-from rich green to deep blue-NATURAL BATHS, CLEAR AS CRYSTAL, and ministure terraces of great beauty. although falling far short of the Pink and White terraces. At present there are no tracks in this new wonderland, and traveling is consequently somewhat difficult, but I believe it is the intention of the government to construct a good track through the valley, the whole of which ought certainly to

be procured for the use of the public.
When properly opened out the region will beyond question become the chiefatraction of the lake district. At present, however, the volchoes are the greatest sight, and will long continue to be so to the scientist and the mere sight seer. They are objects which are unique in the world. I have traversed the whole of the northeast side of the enormous fismarried with great regularity and frequesc, were also celebrites with our personal regularity of the Pages. Not one Page in filly out has Nelson in his name. Witness Thomas Nelson Page, and innumers be other Nelson Pages. In the last generation but one, five of the

WONDERS IN NEW ZEALAND

THE RESULT OF THE RECENT
EARTHQUAKE.

A Scene of Fearful and Appalling
Desolation, Heightened by Active Volcanoes.

Rotorna letter in Auckland Herald:
Refl Ohinemutu in company with Me Goldsmith District Surveyor, and fifty and sixty feet. Getting down

ing at Echo lake, we reached a high hill overlooking the Rotomahana craters. Standing upon this lofty eminence, which I may name here as Mcuut Herald, one had a splendid view right down into the craters, many hundreds of feet below. The dense volumes of smoke-like steam rising slowly from hundreds of different points, and merging into one enormous cloud, formed a kaleidoscopic picture of indescribable beauty. Continuing our journey northward we got into a deep water course, the bam's of which rise on either eide to between fifty and sixty feet. Getting down fifty and sixty feet. Getting down this rarrow channel, which in plac-s made a sheer descent of from twelve to twenty feet, was not a very agreeable experience, as the overhanging masses of mud threatened to come tumbling on the top of us any mo-ment. However, sliding, dropping, lesping and scrambling, we succeeded in getting out of it safely. It led us into

AN ENORMOUS AMPHITHEATER which has been blown out of the slop ing ridges which formerly ran down to the margin of Rotomahn lake. The wall like back of this amphitheater is formed with marvelous regularity. This great area is filled with large bowlders and tremendous masses of rock. In the center, bissing out from a pile of broken lock, is a stream of boiling water, which rushes with great velocity over the i agments of trachyte which lie in its course, tinting them s rich, brilliant red, and winds along the arena and pours into one of the craters, where it is evaporated. Crossing this vertable Waiwera river, which is about twelve fee wide, required great cau ion to avoid getting scaled. We next crossed the Red river, a stream of cold water highly impregnated with iron and tinged the color of blood, and pitched our tent on a mud ledge on the banks of what we named the Acid river. The water was tepid and bad an alum teste, and, as we discovered later on, gives off suffocating gases. We were able to procure some fire-wood, and after some difficulty succeeded in flacing cold water the color o! mud around us. We had tes, and when it grew dark we turned in for the night. None of us slept very soundly. The tent got filled with the fume from the river, waich caused a stifling sensation. The craters close to us kept warning incessantly, and the spring which fid our Acid river worked itself up now and then into an alarming state of activity, threatening to send the stone which blocked its vent flying around. To increase our uners ness we could hear the mud bank on the side falling with a loud sples into the river at intervals. During the night it was cold, and our bed of mud was painfully hard. Soon siter daylight we were up, and as we had slept in our clothes -some of us in our hats and mittens-our dressing did not occupy much time. After breakfast Mr. Smith and myself, accompanied by Harry Lundius, started

TARAWERA. The sides of the mountain were covered with fine (coris ash, as hard as rock, rendering it difficult to obtain a footing. When near the top of the mountain we came across a frozen lake, and in the crevices there were snow and ice. The top of the mounfumes from the straming holes which live the edge of the fissure. The deposit on top is quite 500 feet in places. Standing on the edge of the fissure we could look down into the ciaters, which are now quie cent. They are divided from one another by narrow ridges. Great cracks rua along the edge in some places, threatening a tremendous landalip. Gigant c bowlders lie on the top and in all directions, baving been thrown out of the cra'ers, and, looking at e en rmous masses, so be fo med of the tremendous force which must have been at work to throw tuem up from a depth of feet. The descent was accomplished in safety. On the way down we wit-nessed a fresh eruption between Te Hape o Toros and Komiti. This new volcano was ejecting stones and mud to a great hight, and emitting a large cloud of steam. Previously there was a small tepid lake here, which looked innocent enough, and no one would have suppresed it likely to be the seat of a fresh on break. At the foot of Tarawers, in the line of the chasm, a beautiful green lake has been tound.
We reached our tent on the Acid
river, and as the weather looked
threatening, we therefore packed up, and each with a huge swag on his back started for Pareheru, which we reached at dark and just as the rain began to come down in torrents.

THE ORIGINAL AGREEMENT

For The Bace Between the Galatea and Mayflower. Boston, Mass, September 25 .- The following is the original agreement for the race between the Galatea and Mayflower: Agreement for a match between the Galatea and Mayflower, to be sailed under the rules of the New York Yacht Club, in a whole sail breeze on the first day (September 23d excepted) on which there is such a breeze, the judge to announce before 9:30 o'clock a.m. of each day whether the start will be on that day. If not sailed before October, the match to be off. Commodore Hovey, or some one named by him, to be the judge. The match is not to be eatled in storm or fog or when there is a prospect of thick weather. If the yachts are started, the match to be sailed whether the wind subsequently is such as referred to by this agreement or not. This match is to be for a cup and stakes for \$200.

WILLIAM HENN. C. J. PAINE.

SOLICITOR OF THE TREASURY'S Decision in Regard to Merchandis Consigned to the Anglo-Cali-

fornia Bank. Washington, Suptember 25.—The Anglo-California Bank, limited, re-cently protested to the Tressury Drpartment against the action of the Collector of Customs at San Francisco in refusing to permit entries of im-ported merchandise consigned to the bank by bills of lading on the groun 1 that the bank is a foreign corporation. The question was referred to the Solicitor of the Treasury, who has given an opinion that the bank, which was incorporated in Loadon and carries on

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